



Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee
Monthly Conference Call Minutes
Thursday, February 20, 2014



Attendance

RTOC:

Violet Yeaton-Tribal Co-chair AK#2
Gabriel Bohnee – Idaho (Limited)
Margaret Corvi – Oregon Alt.

Daniel Chythlook-AK #3
Tom Downey- Oregon

NTOC:

Billy Maines, AK #2
(NO QUORUM)

Victoria Kotongan - AK#1

EPA:

David Allnutt: EPA Co-Chair Alternate
Sally Thomas – EPA Co-Chair Alternate
Jim Woods – Senior Tribal Policy Advisor

Linda Anderson-Caranhan EPA Acting Vice Co Chair
JR Herbst - Tribal Coordinator

Special Guests:

Kevin Greenleaf - Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Randy Boskofsky - Village of Port Lions

Amanda Holden - Village of Port Lions

Special Presenters:

Juliann Barta - US EPA Region 10

Sono Hashisaki - SPRINGWOOD ASSOCIATES

RTOC Staff:

Christy Belanger- Communications

Rick Eichstaedt- Policy Analyst

Excused:

Brian Holter, JR - Alternate AK#2
James Holt- ID RTOC
Destiny Wellman – W. Washington

Billy Jean Stewart – AK #2 Alt.
Rosalie Kalistook Tribal Vice Co-Chair
David Fuller – W. Washington ALT.

Absent:

Noelle Saluskin – E. Washington
Ignatius Andrews – AK1 ALT.
Lee Juan Tyler –ID, OR, W. WA NTOC`
Kelly Wright–ID, OR, W.WA Alt.

Millie Hawley- Tribal Vice-chair AK#1
Debra Lekanof – W. Oregon & W.WA
Lance Whitwell- Alternate AK#3

Approve Minutes & Agenda of December 2013: NO ACTION

Approve Minutes & Agenda of January 2014: NO ACTION

Motions: NO QUORUM

RTOC Charter States: (Confirmed by Rick Eichstaedt: RTOC Policy Analyst)

Section 11.0 Decision Making

Recommendations and actions made by the RTOC members will reflect the spirit of consensus to the extent possible. A quorum is needed to conduct official RTOC business. A quorum of the Tribal Caucus members is needed for official Tribal Caucus RTOC decision making. A primary member or alternate (in the absence of a primary) may only have one vote.

Section 11.1 Quorum

A quorum will be established upon the attendance of a simple majority of members at a meeting of the committee that has been officially called. Simple Majority is one half plus one of the memberships (as described in section 5). The RTOC will not conduct official business unless a quorum of Tribal Caucus members and two EPA RTOC members are present.

Action Items:

- CS will send survey (re: Attendance) to evaluate schedule's and what works better for the TOC to do monthly conference calls. (Per Margaret Recommendation)
- CS will send survey to evaluate how many would be interested in webinars or go meeting, would they prefer toll free.
- ALL RTOC and EPA will send corrections, changes to December/ January Minutes to CS
- CS will send minutes for January In person to Matthew Tejada & Daniel Gogel
- RTOC to review TELS Survey and encourage tribes to fill out survey.
- EPA Action Item: Linda will report how the Priorities Strategies are going on the March conference call.
- EPA Action Item: Linda will discuss with Armina regarding Grants.gov requirements (applying for GAP via Grants.gov)
- Rick will send out Finalized Summary of TELS Caucus to Linda for final approval.
- EPA Action Item: Linda going talk to Sally Thomas on follow up on TELS Comments back from tribes.
- EPA Action Item: EPA will follow up on Comment from Joanne Chase about fact that EPA maybe flexible with requirements regarding the consortium membership resolution.
- RTOC and EPA report all comments on Team Building Exercise before the next conference call. Survey online
- CS will send Sono Hashisaki Update on Survey on next Wednesday or Friday.
- CS will email Working Committee to schedule conference calls: Team Building: Working Committee will be put together action Items. Committee: Violet Yeaton, Rick Eichstaedt, Linda Anderson-Caranhan, Billy Maines, Christy Belanger
- CS will email Working Committee to schedule conference calls: Budget Committee: Violet Yeaton, Rick Eichstaedt, Sally Thomas, Billy Maines, Christy Belanger
- Billy will send out FY15 Budget to RTOC once finalized, submit by March.
- Violet and CS will follow up with Sally on using the EPA 1-800 Conference Number.

- Violet will be following up with EPA on lack of attendance for elected TOC members. Charter non-compliance.

Minutes:

12:30 PM Opening Remarks

- Welcome Native Village of Port Lions
Randy Boskofsky & Amanda Holden
- Welcome Kevin Greenleaf - Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Review Action Items

January:

- FY15 RTOC Budget/ Workplan STATUS: Submitted to EPA Rick advised he has until March to submit it.
Billy has received a verbal authorization from Curyung Tribe to take over administrating the RTOC grant for FY15, but has not received official authorization. Will send documentation and questions to JR Herbst EPA ASAP.
- RTOC review EVENT options for future meeting – Still in discussion with EPA.

December:

- Request ALL RTOC Members review Draft 2014 – 2018 EPA Strategic Plan send comments to Rick Eichstaedt so he can work on comments on behalf of RTOC.
*At this time Rick has not received any comments.
- Rick and Kelley will draft letter to EPA re TSCA PCB rulemaking process for approval at the January meeting. *DONE, sent and attached to this agenda.
- RTOC will look at Mirroring the National Strategic Plan
(Recommendation: to Review

EPA UPDATE: Linda Anderson-Caranhan- Acting Vice Co-Chair Alternate

Budget is looking good,

- Regional Budget not available from headquarters at this time
- FY14 Budget for GAP goes towards FY15 is around \$30 million

31 Tribes have selected to develop the EPA Tribal Environmental Plan (ETEP), The New Requirements required under the GAP Guidelines, 55 tribes each year until everyone has ETEP They have been working with programs in the region to develop EPA priorities.

- Next step to EPA Priorities and Tribal Priorities – Try to figure out roles and responsibilities
- Will report at the March RTOC Conference Call on the Progress.

Billy Maines > Linda Anderson-Caranhan

Gap Guidance dealing with Consortium— When will we get final Word?
Whatever the outcome from that, will be reflective fund this year?

Main Reason: Example BBNA services 30 villages, not all villages send in resolutions to support all programs that organization operates. What happens if you only get 26 Village Resolutions but not all 30?

Linda Anderson-Caranhan

The language is pretty clear that the tribes are required to submit a resolution for all member tribe. If they are no longer members, it would be all right
They will be having a follow up meeting on this; they will get back to us on that.

Agency Wide Solid Waste Plan

- The Plan has been progressing –the plan prohibitions using GAP funds (as stated in the GAP Guidance) towards implementation activities such as backhauling, waste collections and dump clean up.
- There is a provision that allows (2) two year waiver allows tribes to use funding include backhaul in workplans.
- Working on as template for a two waiver request that the tribes can use to make it easier to use.
- They will be working with their headquarters on the template before sending it out.
- There was a meeting at the end of AFE with many agencies to discuss what authorities, sources of funding and what priorities each of the agencies have. This is the next step on how to address this problem.

EPA going thru a budget exercise within the agency and the region to avoid Furloughs

- Staff has the option volunteer for early or Volunteer Retirement
- Results will be out in April
- At this time they do not expect any more staff reductions in the tribal staff at this point.

White House Council of native Americans Affairs Meeting

- Next Week
- EPA will be there (Bob Perciasepe) Deputy

Agriculture Department

- Sarah Bittleman will be leaving – This position will be vacant for awhile
- EPA released draft on Agriculture worker protection standards

Washington Water Quality Standards that consider consumption of fish will be available in Draft in March.

EPA & US Global Change Research Program

- Requesting Comment/Information for Special Report on Impact on Climate Change and Human Health in the US.
- Deadlines: March 31, 2014

Reminder: UPDATE SAM Registration – Do not lose your FUNDING

EPA Plan for Federal Certification of Application for Restricted use of Pesticide in Indian Country
Has been finalized

- Conference Call: February 24, 2014
- Conference Call: March 5, 2014

AFE:

Comment from Joanne Chase that AIEO may be flexible with requirements regarding the consortium membership resolution.

- Will be following up with AIEO on this matter but at this time it is still a requirement. They will get back to us on this matter.

Victoria Kotongan > EPA: Linda Anderson-Caranhan

- After reading the consultation opportunities about electronic submission Grant Application Tribes are concerned about applying thru Grants.gov due to unreliable internet.

Ggrants.gov is more complicated, high maintenance and only having one user is allowed used making it difficult for smaller organizations.

EPA: Linda Anderson-Caranhan

This is a national Issue; this is beyond the policy of the region.

She will raise this with Armina Nolan and see if we can address this issue with Howard Corcoran, Director of Office of Grants.

This will EPA Action Item for March Conference Call.

NEW NOTE: All employees are now required to take Environmental Justice Training.

EPA UPDATE: Jim Woods – EPA Senior Tribal Policy Advisor

ATNI Conference

- Dennis addresses the National Resource Committee and did up update on Fish Consumption.
- General Update on what's going on the in State of Washington, with the dept. of ecology and the governor's office.
- Discussed the Idaho Survey being done.
There was a concern on NEZ Perce and collecting the survey data for the reservation, 9 months would not justify an accurate survey and they request 12 month.
There is going to be more discussion on this in the future.

- FEMA was at the conference and was preparing to approve Disaster Relief Funding for Pudget Sound and Washington Coastal Tribes for Fraser River Sockeye fishery. Last year there was only a couple day openers and the they trying to approve for fisherman that were impacted form this loss. FEMA will be addressing this.

Treaty Rights at Risk Meeting

- Give the Tribes an update
- Discuss an Issue elevation process, almost like a dispute resolution for the treaty Tribes for better coordination with federal agency and they are working will together.
- Trying to coordinate with various agencies (example: army core of engineers) has been a challenge due to different policies.
- Issue elevation process that is being proposed is another way for federal agencies can sign on to addresses tribal Issues that involve treaty rights.

Federal Certification Plan: Juliann Barta US EPA Region 10

Pesticides Unit EPA Region 10 for 7 years

Contact:

Ph 206-553-1495

Fax 206-553-6984

barta.juliann@epa.gov

- Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticide within Indian Country

Attachments:

Letter FED CERT Plan

Letter FED CERT Plan Attachment

FLYER EPA Plan FEB 2014 revised

Everyone using restricted use pesticides in Indian Country must be certified and have federal certificates. Exceptions

- If the tribe is covered under an EPA Approved implemented Plan

Federal Register Notices

The Federal Register Notice summarizes the EPA plan and describes EPA's response to the public comments received on the EPA plan. It is available at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-02-06/pdf/2014-02564.pdf>. You can also find out more about the EPA plan, access the Federal Register Notice, and view the actual EPA plan from the EPA plan website at <http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country>

Conference Call on the EPA Plan

EPA will be holding two conference calls on the EPA plan for interested tribes. The calls will go over the plan and implementation details. The conference call instructions are below.

- Monday, February 24, 2014, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern.

To participate, dial then, when prompted, enter

- Wednesday, March 5, 2014, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern.

To participate, dial [Nonresponsive - Conference Code] then, when prompted, enter [Nonresponsive Conference Code]

Violet Yeaton (On Behalf of Gabriel Bohnee) > Juliann Barta

Pesticides Issue for RTOC

- a. At the Annual Pesticide Enforcement Circuit Rider meeting held in Spokane on Feb. 6th, some of the participants were worried that tribal pesticide program issues might have fallen off the Region10 RTOC's radar.
- b. The main message is that pesticides are an ongoing issue and concern for tribes in Region 10, and EPA funding for tribal pesticide programs is dwindling. We'd like to make sure that the message gets to the RTOC and NTOC that funding for tribal pesticide programs and for EPA's pesticide program needs to be retained, if not increased.

Gabriel Bohnee RTOC Idaho > Juliann Barta

- Concern on lack of funding
- Keeping up with Pesticide Enforcement in the area

Juliann Barta Response

- This issue has been raised with headquarters about needing more funding for program.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sono Hashisaki: Springwood Associates– Team Building Exercise

Contact: Sono Hashisaki, President,
Springwood Associates, Inc.

Phone: [Ex. 6 PII]

Address: 1726 NE 58th St.,
Seattle, WA 98105

Email: sono@springwood-usa.com

Attachments: Team Building: Executive Summary

Brief Summary: Recommendations for each meeting we read one at each meeting

- Who we are?
- Core Values
- Principles

Summary of the Report:

- Findings Report and Recommendations
- Category 1: Framing the tribal – federal government relationship
- Category 2: TOC/RTOC Strategic Framework for Tribal - EPA Partnership
- Category 3: RTOC Operational Challenges and Opportunities
- Luncheon: Terry Williams: Member of Tulalip Tribe

Please read thru the documents and welcome to contact her anytime.

Violet Yeaton: In the Executive Summary of the Team building document is the intent to incorporate into the Strategic Plan or specific action items we need to follow up on.
Sono: These are recommendations only and you may want to work with Rick to add them to the Strategic Plan. This is a document you may want to come back to every few months.

Follow up for March Conference Call, Working Committee will be put together action Items for next steps.

Committee: Violet Yeaton, Rick Eichstaedt, Linda Anderson-Carahan, Billy Maines
Christy Belanger

Christy Belanger: Communications Specialist

Office Hours: 8:30 – 5:30PM M-F

- Request RTOC Agenda Items for March and April
- Planning for next April In Person Meeting
- Uploading Photos from AFE next week, RTOC please review
 - Survey Sent: Team Building Exercise
 - Survey Sent: TELS Comments(230 Tribes) 58 Tribes Reviewed – 21 Responses
 - Survey to be sent: Go Meeting or Webinar – Looking into new system
 - Survey for the April Meeting

Linda Anderson-Carahan: EPA

APRIL IN PERSON (Primary's Only)

Proposed Meeting Schedule:

April 15, 9am to 4pm- Elwha Klallam Heritage Center, Port Angeles

<http://www.elwha.org/heritagecenter.html> , Elwha Dam and Salmon recovery presentation.

April 16, 9am to 7pm- Drive to Makah Tribe, Neah Bay WA. <http://makah.com/> Cultural Presentation/Traditional lunch with the Elders/Makah Cultural Research Center/Environmental & Fisheries presentation. Return to Red Lion Hotel.

April 17, 9am to 12 noon- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe <http://www.jamestowntribe.org/> Tribal Council Chambers, Sequim WA. Jamestown Natural Resource Program Presentation.

The proposed schedule is different from the normal quarterly in person meeting. This is going to cut into our meeting time, but allows us to get exposure for three different tribe and hear their cultures/issues.

Note: Each host tribe is confirmed and requests time on the agenda 1 to 2 hours to provide their Environmental Program Presentation as so they can show RTOC/EPA their accomplishments and their challenges in protecting their natural resources, treaty rights and the health of their communities.

Violet Yeaton:

Meeting schedule will need to be flexible so the RTOC can address other Region 10 Tribal priorities will continue working with EPA and tribes and keep you informed.

Rick Eichstaedt: Policy Analyst

RTOC to send Reassessment PCB Letter: Letter went out and attached to your agenda.

- *Please review the PBC Letter on Reassessment of PCB Use Authorizations
- *Finalized Summary of TELS Caucus and will be sent out
- (Action Items) Rick will send out Finalized Summary of TELS Caucus and Linda will approve Finalized.

On Facebook, there is WMAN Conference

- This is not an RTOC Event, but there are scholarships if you wish to attend

NTOC Budget Request: Rick Eichstaedt & William "Billy" Maines

RTOC will put together a committee to prepare NTOC Budget requests for Reg 10 Billy Maines is going to send a letter to NTC and work groups this week.

Next NTC meeting scheduled: (TENTATIVE)

Discussion: FY16 Budget & Environmental Priorities

EST: 1:00PM – 6:00PM Daily

- March 31, 2013
- April 1, 2014
- April 2, 2014

RTOC Budget Committee Members:

- Sally Thomas (EPA)
- Rick Eichstaedt (RTOC Policy Analyst)
- Billy Maines (RTOC/NTOC)
- Violet Yeaton (RTOC Co-Chair)
- Christy Belanger (Communications)

RTOC R10 will be advised when they will be schedule to present their presentation.

FY15 RTOC Budget: Billy Maines has until March to submit.

Billy will send to RTOC for Review once finalized

Conference Calls /Upcoming Events

- March Conference Call: March 20, 2014

- May Conference Call: May, 22, 2013
- June In Person Meeting: In Person (Primary)
- July Conference Call: July 24, 2014
- August Conference Call: August 21, 2014
- September In Person Meeting: September 22 – 25 (Primary)

April In Person Meeting (PRIMARY) 14-17 ONSITE Indian Country

Survey will be sent to RTOC concerning the following:

- Attendance
- In Person Meeting Dates
- Evaluations regarding Conference Calls and In Person Meeting Dates
- Scheduling Conflicts

Attendance

Violet Yeaton and Linda Anderson-Caranhan

Concern on attendance, Primaries are unable to attend and not having alternates to represent the areas/tribes.

Violet will be discussing with EPA to find out who is responsible to address vacancy for Alternates seats on the RTOC. if you are not complying with the charter, attending meeting, who will be accountable.

NOTE:

2014 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTF) held May 13-15 at Swinomish Lodge.

Optional Training day on May 12, 2014 (TBA)